

United States Capitol Visitor Center Weekly Construction Summary



Prepared by the Capitol Visitor Center Project Office, Architect of the Capitol

June 7, 2004



In the service level of the CVC's southeast quadrant, crews began, for the first time, to set masonry blocks that will define interior space in this zone.

This Week - Ongoing Work - 6/07/04 through 6/11/04

NOTE: All construction activities this week will cease Wednesday at 4 P.M. due to the lying-in-state of President Reagan in the Capitol.

East Front Plaza Highlights:

- The last major concrete placement for the western half of the CVC roof deck was completed late last week.
- Masons have begun to set masonry blocks in the southeast quadrant of the service level (see photo above).
- Crews continue to build mechanical spaces, erect formwork, pour concrete, and install utilities throughout the site.
- Steel continues to be erected for the structure and roof of the Congressional Auditorium. Several columns and the first crossbeam spanning the facility are already in place (*see top photo on opposite page*).
- Stone masons will continue placing the original stone steps on the East Front Center Steps (see photo on opposite page).
- A 20'x20' granite paving mock-up has been completed just north of the Center Steps. This mock-up, when approved, will establish the quality threshold for the remaining 200,000 paving stones that will be placed on the plaza.

East Front Extension (Inside the Capitol)

- Crews continue to erect structural steel inside the East Front Extension and continue with demolition activities to clear the way for elevator shafts, escalators, stairwells and new mechanical systems.
- Workers continue waterproofing the zone between the existing East Front and the newly formed plaza deck.

Truck Tunnel Construction

- Crews will place concrete for a mud-slab over the final 135 feet of tunnel bottom between the Old Russell Tunnel and the truck tunnel's opening into the CVC. This slab will then be waterproofed and serve as the base for the slab on grade.
- Dump trucks continue to backfill the tunnel zone above the tunnel roof deck.
- Workers will continue utility installation above the tunnel zone at New Jersey Ave. and Constitution Ave. and then backfill that zone, place asphalt for the road and re-establish sidewalks and curbs. Difficult utility work has delayed the restoration of Constitution Ave. NW for several weeks. This work is now expected to be completed by early August.

Library of Congress (LOC) Tunnel

- Crews have completed driving piles in First Street SE to provide earth retention for the excavation effort in the eastern half of the street. A temporary vehicle bridge made of large wood beams is being constructed along the eastern half of First Street SE. A similar bridge has already been constructed above the tunnel zone along the western half of First Street SE.
- Excavation near the northwest corner of the LOC building has been completed.
- The first portions of the LOC tunnel slab-on-grade have been placed within the CVC site at the entrance to the tunnel and the two-story

formwork for the tunnel walls in this zone has been erected.



Late last week, steel workers began erecting columns and crossbeams for the Congressional Auditorium.

Next Week - 6/14/04 - 6/18/04

East Front Plaza Work

- Pending approval of the paving stone mock-up, stone masons will resume setting pavers on the north side of the site.
- Crews will continue to waterproof the last portions of the CVC roof slab, conduct waterproofing tests, and complete the placement of concrete within the small remaining portions of the roof deck's top slab near the perimeter of the site.
- Crews will continue to install utilities, build mechanical spaces, erect formwork and place concrete floor slabs for all three below-ground levels of the CVC.
- Crews will continue to erect steel in place for the Congressional Auditorium.

East Front Extension

Steel crews will continue to erect steel within the East Front concrete structure. Demolition of structural elements will continue on all levels within the East Front Extension and in the Carriageway below the East Front Center Steps.

Truck Tunnel Construction

- Crews will continue to erect formwork, place concrete and waterproof the roof deck and walls in all areas of the truck tunnel construction zone. Close to 75 percent of the concrete for the tunnel is in place.
- Work related to utility lines that cross over the truck tunnel along Constitution is expected to be completed. Crews will then

Restoration activities are expected to be completed in August. **Library of Congress (LOC) Tunnel** Crews are expected to complete the temporary bridge along First Street SE over the LOC tunnel work zone and traffic flow in both directions should return to normal. Formwork assembly and concrete placements will continue near the LOC and within the CVC site for the tunnel floor slab and walls

begin to remove the temporary bridge and backfill the zone.

Stone masons began setting the stepping stones for the East Front Center Steps. The lower eight steps had been removed two years ago to clear the way for excavation along the east face of the Capitol.

If you have any questions about the Capitol Visitor Center Project, please contact Tom Fontana, CVC project communications officer, at (202) 228-1310, or by e-mail at tfontana@aoc.gov. You can read this document and previous editions on the CVC web site at www.aoc.gov.